visitors to Badrinath, Kedarnath, Hemkund Saneb, Gangotri and Yamunotri in the year 1994 is 6.19 lakhs.

(b) The pollution of rivers due to visit of tourists and pilgrims to the above mentioned places is of temporary nature. At various places, urinals and community toilets have been provided by the State Government for keeping the area clean and maintaining hygienic conditions.

(c) to (e) Water quality monitoring upstream of Rishikesh is not being done and is neither contemplated during the summer months of 1995. The water quality of river Ganga and Yamuna in their upper reaches including tributaries, did not warrant pollution abatement works in those stretches. Accordingly, the IInd phase of Ganga Action Plan, including Yamuna component, envisages tackling stretches below Rishikesh and Yamuna nagar—Jagadhari respectively. Also, no proposals were received from the State Government for the upper stretches.

In the townships of hill districts of U.P. wherever the sewer system has been laid no sewage treatment plants have been installed as yet.

**Letters of MPs to the Ministry of Environment and Forest**

4537. SHRI MOHAMMED AFZAL alias MEEM AFZAL: Will the Minister of ENVIRONMENT AND FORESTS be pleased to state:

(a) what is the number and details of letters written by the members of Parliament to the Ministry during the period from 1st April, 1994 to 31st March, 1995;

(b) what is the number of letters acknowledged out of them;

(c) what is the number of letters in respect of which final replies were sent; and

(d) what is the break-up of final letters issued by the Ministry, containing positive and negative replies, respectively?

THE MINISTER OF STATE OF THE MINISTRY OF ENVIRONMENT AND FORESTS (SHRI KAMAL NATH): ((a) to (d) The information is being collected and will be laid on the Table of the House.

**Afforestation funds from mine owners and industrialists**

4538. SHRI RAMDAS AGARWAL: Will the Minister of ENVIRONMENT AND FORESTS be pleased to state:

(a) whether his Ministry is asking the mine owners/industrialists in the country to deposit adequate funds for afforestation purpose;

(b) if so, the amount received by Government and spent on this account till date, State-wise, during the last year;

(c) whether the funds were not utilised by State Governments for the aforesaid purpose. if so, the reasons therefor indicating for which purposes other than affortstation the money was spent, State-wise, out of this sanctioned/allocated funds; and

(d) whether Government have kept State-wise records of expenditure for the purposes of fuel, mining activities, construction of Dam, irrigation and generation of powers, etc. out of the total funds allocated for the country as a whole and deposited by other agencies during 1993-94?

THE MINISTER OF STATE OF THE MINISTRY OF ENVIRONMENT AND Forests (SHRI KAMAL NATH): (a) to (c) Yes, Sir. Out of the stipulated amount of Rs. 25.686 lakh an amount of Rs. 18.394 lakh have been realised from user agencies for compensatory afforestation. Out of this Rs. 9300 lakh has been spent and an area of 2.206 lakh has been afforested against the target of 3.85 lakh has till December, 1994. The main reason for non-utilisation of funds in past is the financial procedure of deposits and drawal of funds as forestry receipts are still considered as revenue by the States. State-wise details